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Cholera situation in Manila—Probable infection of the Pasig River.

The majority of cholera cases still continue to occur on vessels lying in the Pasig River, between the Bridge of Spain and its mouth. A careful study of the cases of the past few weeks shows that the majority of them occurred on vessels lying in the shallow side of the river. This would indicate that the river must be infected, especially near the banks where the water is sluggish and does not readily mix with that in the current. It is here also that the native crews bathe, and it is no uncommon sight to see them dip this water up and use it for drinking and for washing vegetables. Another strong point in favor of the infection being due to this stagnant water is the fact that no white people have been affected, that cholera is found only among Filipinos, and that they are the only persons who come in contact with the suspected water. Assistant Surgeon Long is at present making a special investigation of this matter, the result of which will be reported later. If the source of this infection could be definitely determined no doubt a remedy could be supplied which would result in ridding Manila entirely of cholera.

Two interisland vessels have been reported to us as having had cholera aboard after leaving this port, but the Islands are so generally infected throughout that it is scarcely justifiable at this time to again resort to an outgoing quarantine, which means a hardship to the business of the Islands, and more especially since its value is problematical.

Cholera report of Manila.

Week ended May 16, 1903: Total number of cases, 66; deaths, 58. Nationality, Filipino.

Report of cholera occurring in provincial towns in the Philippine Islands for the week ended May 16, 1903.

Place.	Province.	Cases.	Deaths.
Candaba	Pampanga	23	15
Aparri	Cagayan	80	50
Lal-lo	do	26	18
Camalaniugan	do	53	43
Guinobatan	Albay	22	22
Oas	do	1	1
Polangui	do	4	3
Ligao	do	3	3
Libong	do	4	4
Cebu	Island of Cebu	22	15
Villareal	Islands of Samar and Panay	12	12
Maayon	Province of Capiz	4	4
Panay	do	8	9
Pontevedra	do	16	6
Panitan	do	10	5
Dao	do	1	1
San Jacinto	Island of Masbate	5	1
Aroroy	do	10	3
San Carlos	Islands of Negros and Mindanao	24	16
Iligan	Province of Misamis	30	14
Total	358	245